SHUTDOWN AVERTED
Congress passes stopgap bill to keep government open until Dec. 22. A8

ELM CITY ICON
Sally's Apizza, an institution since 1938, is sold to new owners. B1

BLAZES ADVANCE
Fires in California threaten a scenic retreat town, Los Angeles area. A8

MORE CLOUDS 5/6★
One more cool day before snow. A2, B1

Hartford Courant

FOUNDED IN 1764

VOLUME CLXXXI NUMBER 342 | COURANT.COM | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Malloy: Roads, Rails Face Crisis

Cuts, Fare Hikes Loom Without Revenue

By GREGORY B. HLADKY
ghladky@courant.com

Connecticut's transportation system is in crisis and needs almost $1 billion in new revenue over the next five years or the state will have to cut major road and rail programs and raise bus and rail fares, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy warned Thursday.

The governor said tolls, higher gas taxes or dedicating more sales taxes to transportation should be considered by the legislature. But those are politically unpopular options lawmakers have rejected in the past and will find hard to swallow, particularly in an election year like 2018.

"Today we are at a crossroads, and a decision must be made," Malloy said. "Will we cancel important projects and let our roads and bridges deteriorate, or will we endeavor to face these problems head-on and find new ways to support our transportation system?"

Major projects, such as rebuilding the elevated portion of I-84 in Hartford, the "mixmaster" interchange in Waterbury, and dozens of other road and bridge projects, might have to be delayed. The state Department of Transportation would have to cut jobs and bus and rail fares would have to be increased, Malloy said.

Without action soon, Malloy said, the state fund dedicated to transportation will go into deficit and the state will no longer

ROADS, A4

RESIGNATION SPEECH

Franken Denies Claims, Will Quit

Senator Expected To Leave By End Of December

By ED O'KEEFE, ELISE VIEBECK and KAREN TUMULTY
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., on Thursday announced that he will resign amid multiple allegations that he touched women inappropriately, a stunning political fall at a time when the issue of sexual harassment has exploded on Capitol Hill and enveloped both parties.

Franken

Yielding to pressure from other Democrats, Franken will now prepare to end a career that seemed just to be hitting its stride as he was emerging as a potent voice challenging the Trump administration — and was being seen as a potential presidential candidate in 2020.

Also Thursday, Republican Rep. Trent Franks of Arizona announced he was resigning after House officials learned that

FRANKEN, A4

PROSPECT AVENUE MANSION

Christmas At The Governor's

MARK MIRKO | MMIRKO@COURANT.COM

GOV. DANNEL P. MALLOY, with first lady Cathy Malloy watching, adds a more than 100-year-old family ornament owned by his grandmother to one of the six trees in the governor's mansion Thursday. The residence will be open for free tours this weekend.

Free Tours Of Residence This Weekend

By MATTHEW ORMSETH | mormseth@courant.com

This year, for the seventh and last time, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy trimmed, shaped and decorated the six Christmas trees for the governor's residence in Hartford's West End.

Malloy, who will not seek re-election, said this is the last year he will bedeck the 19-room home with six trees and a blizzard of Yuletide ornamentation.

"I'm relieved," he said, during a tour of the 15,000-square-foot Prospect Avenue mansion. He'll be moving out of his home for the past seven years in January 2019. "We'll decorate [next year], but not to this extent because everything will have to be taken down pretty quickly by January."

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the residence will be open to the public for free tours, accompanied by caroling from Hartford-area school choirs.

Each of the mansion's six trees is decorated with a distinct theme. There is the bird tree, with wooden finches and robins hand-carved by a Vermont artisan 80 years ago. There is a tree that pays respect to victims of domestic violence and sexual

MANSION, A4

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Safety Study Finds CVH Rife With Hazards

Dangerous Conditions Raised Suicide Risk

By JOSH KOVNER
jkovner@courant.com

The state psychiatric hospital treating many suicidal and self-injurious patients was filled with outmoded fixtures, beds, hardware, appliances and gaps, cracks and crevices that significantly heightened the risk of suicide, a recent inspection found.

The dangerous conditions existed throughout the patient buildings at Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown, from plastic boxes at the top of bathroom doors that created a "ligature risk" to the tracks of privacy curtains between patient beds that

HOSPITAL, A4

Agents Raid Home
Federal agents and local police raided a Newington home Thursday as part of a regional drug operation.
Connecticut, Page B1

State Home Sales Strong In October
October home sales in Connecticut had the strongest showing for the month since 2006, but the median sale price still is far below what it was at its peak. Business, Page A5

'The Color Purple' Resonates At Bushnell
The show's recent Broadway revival, in Hartford through Sunday, includes stirring folk, soul and pop musical numbers. Living, Page D1

Day Of Remembrance
Floyd Welch, who at 96 is the state's oldest living Pearl Harbor survivor, recites the Pledge of Allegiance at a gathering at the Elks Lodge of Manchester Thursday. He was aboard the USS Maryland the morning of the attack. Connecticut, Page B1

Veterinarians Want To Study Pot For Pets
A national veterinary group is seeking to loosen restrictions on marijuana research so the efficacy of using it as pet medicine may be studied.
Business, Page A5

U.S. Has No Plans To Miss Winter Games
The U.S. Olympic Committee says it has no plans to pull out of the Winter Games in South Korea after White House aides suggested the nation's participation was "an open question."
Sports, Page C1

UConn At DePaul
UConn women prepare for DePaul's "craziness." Sports, Page C1

$2.00 Copyright 2017 The Hartford Courant Co.

CLASSIFIED C8
COMICS D4-D5
LOTTERY A2
MOVIES D3
OBITUARIES B7-B8
PUZZLES D5

Hartford Courant media group